



APS Virtual Learning Community

Community News | September 6, 2022



Our community grieves the passing of a pioneer, leader, advocate, and inspiration to us all - **Sally Zinman**.

[Learn More](#)

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Academy News

Term 3 of the Academy of Peer Services (APS) started on August 29. The term ends November 18. Tabs across the top of the [Academy of Peer Services \(APS\) website](#) provide information to help you get started. To view the Welcome letter, review the [Site News](#) tab or [click here](#).

About Us	Terms of Use	Course Catalog	Getting Started	Getting Help	Site News	Virtual Learning Community	Certification Board
About Us Describes APS and gives the Calendar of Term opening and closing dates.	Terms of Use Describes what is allowable use of the Academy and what is prohibited.	Course Catalog List of courses available categorized by type (Core, Elective, CE, Supervision)	Getting Started Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) and the User Guides	Getting Help How to reach the APS User Support Specialist or other Support	Site News Current and past APS listserv messages	Virtual Learning Community Calendar, Job Bank, Blog, Resources and Events of Interest to the peer workforce	Certification Board A link to the Certification Board website for information about how to apply or where to go for assistance

During a term, all of the courses listed in the [Course Catalog](#) are available. However only the 13 core courses count toward initial certification. If you are new to the site and seeking certification, be sure to review the application on the [New York Peer Specialist Certification Board site](#). This will help you to be sure the courses you are taking can be applied toward certification.

Getting Started in Term 3 – Multiple Accounts are Prohibited

When you log in to APS, be sure that you do not create multiple accounts. To learn more, [click here](#). If you had an account in the past but need to make a change to your email address or other account information, call Maryam Husamudeen, our User Support Specialist to get your account set up correctly. Creating multiple accounts is prohibited per the [Terms of Use](#). Creating multiple accounts can lead to suspension or termination of your access to APS.

For more information on avoiding multiple accounts and otherwise getting started in the new term, check out the column “Ask Maryam” at the end of this newsletter.

Registering for Courses

When starting a new term, [the courses and tests from the previous term have been reset](#), so you need to go into your dashboard and select **Register for Course** for each course you want to take (or repeat). For step-by-step instructions, visit the [Quick Reference Guide](#).

New this Term

The Academy of Peer Services has a continuous quality improvement process that includes updates and improvements to courses, based on user feedback and new information. This term, two elective courses have been replaced with courses in the CE category of courses:

Ethics: Navigating Complex Relationships has been replaced with ETH01 Peer Support Ethics

Supervision for Peer Support Providers has been replaced with the Supervision Basic Practices Series in the CE Category of courses. Visit the [Course Catalog](#) to learn more about these changes.

Information on Credentialing and Certification for Employers

This past spring, the OMH Office of Consumer Affairs offered presentations on the certification and credentialing of peer support workers under OMH for providers. If you know employers or supervisors who could benefit from this orientation, please share the [Slides](#) | [Q&A](#) | [Recording](#).



Specialty Tracks for Peer Specialists Now Under Development

The Academy of Peer is now working with subject matter experts on the development of five new specialty tracks to qualify for offering peer support to specific populations.

The specialty tracks are for supporting:

- Justice-Involved Individuals
- Older Adults
- People in Crisis
- Health and Wellness Coaching
- Supervision of Peer Specialists

Watch for more information in the coming months to participate in the early training that will be available from each of these tracks.

APS Blog



In addition to this monthly newsletter, the APS Virtual Learning Community hosts a blog site, which is another way you can stay informed and get involved. The following list includes recent articles by guest writers as well as reposts of news items.

The most recent blogs:

- Sept 1, 2022 - [September Wellness Institute Calendar](#)
- August 29, 2022 - [In Everlasting Honor and Memory of Sally Zinman. Harvey Rosenthal, et al.](#)
- August 28, 2022 - [Drunk on Too Much Life. Sascha Debrul](#)
- August 22, 2022 - [Peer Specialists, What's in a Name? Howard Diamond](#)
- August 21, 2022 - [Partnership to Help Black New Yorkers Heal from the Buffalo Tragedy](#)
- August 20, 2022 - [Random Act by a Peer Specialist Part 4. Howard Diamond](#)
- August 18, 2022 - [In Honor of Joyce Wale. Jonathan P. Edwards.](#)
- August 1, 2022 - [August Wellness Institute Calendar](#)



Share Your Creative Ideas and Writing!

We're always looking for guest bloggers or contributions of interest to the peer support workforce. Have you seen an article of interest or news to share? Let us know. We may be able to repost it. Send email to academy.virtual.community@gmail.com.



APS Webinars

The Virtual Community hosts monthly webinars and members of the APS team and advisory council frequently participate in webinars for other organizations. Following is a list of recent webinars available on the Virtual Community website under Recorded Webinars: <https://aps-community.org/webinars-recorded/>

Created by Luis Prado
from Noan Project

Peer Certification and Credentialing 101 for OMH Providers

Broadcast on June 8, 2022

[Presentation Slides](#) | [Recording](#) | [FAQ](#)

For more APS (and related) webinars on the Virtual Community website visit:

<https://aps-community.org/webinars-recorded/>



Do you have any ideas for blogs, webinars, or other items for the Virtual Learning Community?

Send email to academy.virtual.community@gmail.com

Highlighted Events



Mark your calendar with these deadlines and dates.

Call for Proposals Deadline: Sept 15

7th Annual Substance Use and Mental Health Peer Conference Peer Professionals: The Ongoing Evolution

Conference Date: Friday, December 2 | [Learn More](#)

OMH Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) Meeting

September 19, 2022 8:30 – 12:30 pm

Statewide Meeting

OMH Office of Consumer Affairs | [Learn More](#)

NYAPRS Conference (In-Person)

A New Alliance - It Takes a Community!

September 21-23, 2022 | NYAPRS | [Learn More](#)

Funny In My Head! All We Can Do Is Laugh

September 23, 7-8:30 pm ET

NYSPI Pardes Auditorium

1051 Riverside Drive, New York, NY | OnTrackNY | [Learn More](#)

National Association for Peer Supporters (N.A.P.S.)

2022 Annual Conference

October 19-21, 2022

Dallas, Texas | N.A.P.S. | [Learn More](#)

National Association for Rights Protection and Advocacy (NARPA)

2022 Annual Rights Conference

October 26-29, 2022

Newark, New Jersey | NARPA | [Learn More](#)

Alternatives 2022

November 2-4, 2022

National Coalition for Mental Health Recovery

[Learn More](#)

29th Annual Bi-County Empowerment Conference

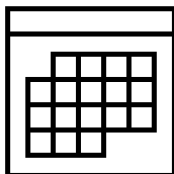
Unity for Change

November 4, 9 am - 3 pm ET

BiCounty Conference Committee | [Learn More](#)

Community Calendar

Note: Events in our Community Calendar are provided as a public service to our community.



To find out whether an event is eligible for continuing education for a specific professional association, certification, or program, ask the event organizer directly.



The following calendar entries were last updated **September 1, 2022**
Be sure to mark your personal calendar with events you want to attend.

New announcements are added to our Community Calendar frequently.
Visit our online [Community Calendar](#) for the latest additions.

September

[Wellness Institute Newsletter](#)

Motivational Interviewing for Supervisors

Sep 1, 10:00 AM – 11:30 AM

The Coalition for Behavioral Health | [Learn More](#)

Application Due September 2

OMH Statewide Multicultural Advisory Committee - Members Needed!

[Learn More](#)

Service Delivery in a Digital Age: Engagement & Boundaries

Sept 2, 10:00 AM – 11:30 AM

The Coalition for Behavioral Health | [Learn More](#)

Ethical Considerations

September 3, 4 & 6, 9:00 - 3:00 pm ET

Recovery Coach University | [Learn More](#)

Deadline to Apply: Sept 6

MHA Westchester Peer Specialist Training
(Starts Fall 2022)

MHA Westchester | [Learn More](#)

Deadline to Apply: Sept 6

Bronx Redefining Advocates for Civic Engagement

BRACE | [Learn More](#)

Motivational Interviewing with Involuntarily Referred Youth

Sep 6, 10:00 AM – 11:30 AM
The Coalition for Behavioral Health | [Learn More](#)

Reducing the Risk of Youth Suicide: A Discussion on Education, Prevention, and Early Intervention

Sept 6, 1:00 – 2:00 pm
MHA | [Learn More](#)

HALI (APS) Learning Collaborative

Sept 6: 3-4 pm ET
(Rescheduled due to Labor Day)
Hands Across Long Island | [Learn More](#)

APS Networking Meeting

Sept 6, 5:15 - 6:30 pm ET
Academy of Peer Services | [Learn More](#)

Judi's Room

Sept 7, 6:00 pm ET
MindFreedom | [Learn More](#)

Peer Supervision Training in a ROSC

September 8 and 9, 9:00 am - 4:00 pm ET
Recovery Coach University | [Learn More](#)

Behavioral Health Parity 101

September 8 | 12:00-1:30 pm ET
NYC DOHMH | [Learn More](#)

Loss, Grief & Resilience: Attending to our Own Coping Behaviors as Providers

Sep 9, 10:00 AM – 11:30 AM
The Coalition for Behavioral Health | [Learn More](#)

CCAR Recovery Coach Academy Training

Sept. 12, 13, 15, 20, and 21, 9:00 am - 4:00 pm ET (30 Hours)
Recovery Coach University | [Learn More](#)

HALI (APS) Learning Collaborative

Sept 12: 3-4 pm ET
(Mondays while APS is in session)
Hands Across Long Island | [Learn More](#)

988 What's the Scoop

Sept 13: 12:00 - 1:00 pm ET
PsychU | [Learn More](#)

"Follow Me and Like My Beautiful Selfies": Social Media Use and Adolescent Mental Health

Sept 13, 2-3 pm ET

MHA | [Learn More](#)

APS Networking Meeting

Sept 13, 5:15 - 6:30 pm ET

Academy of Peer Services | [Learn More](#)

Healing Youth Trauma

Sep 14, 10:00 AM – 11:30 AM

The Coalition for Behavioral Health | [Learn More](#)

Kinship Families Affected by Substance Use and Mental Health Disorders

September 14, 1:00 - 2:30 PM Eastern

SAMHSA | [Learn More](#)

Call for Proposals Deadline: Sept 15

7th Annual Substance Use and Mental Health Peer Conference

Peer Professionals: The Ongoing Evolution

Conference Date: Friday, December 2

[Learn More](#)

National Latino Behavioral Health Conference

September 15-16, 2022

National Latino Behavioral Health Association | [Learn More](#)

Training: Making the Time to Breathe, Move and Nourish Yourself

September 15, 11:00 - 12:00 pm ET

Rutgers | [Learn More](#)

An Introduction to Person-Centered Recovery Planning and Process

Sep 15, 1:00 PM – 2:30 PM

The Coalition for Behavioral Health | [Learn More](#)

Workplace Stability

September 16, 8:30 - 3:30 pm ET

Hudson/Mohawk Valley Health | [Learn More](#)

WRAP Facilitator Training

Sept. 19-23, 2022

Brattleboro, VT

The Copeland Center | [Learn More](#)

OMH Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) Meeting

September 19, 2022 8:30 – 12:30 pm

Statewide Meeting - OMH Office of Consumer Affairs

[Learn More](#)

HALI (APS) Learning Collaborative
September 19, 3-4 pm ET
(Mondays while APS is in session)
Hands Across Long Island | [Learn More](#)

NYS Suicide Prevention Conference
Fostering Connection Across the Lifespan
September 20 - 22, 2022
NYSOMH and SPCNY | [Learn More](#)

Tuesday Talk: Building Resilient Organizations Through Adaptive Leadership
September 20 | 12:00-1:30 pm ET
CCSI | [Learn More](#)

Behavioral Health Parity for Service Providers
September 20 | 12:00-1:30 pm ET
NYC DOHMH | [Learn More](#)

Where Do I Fit In?
Sept. 20, 3:00 – 4:00 pm ET
MHA | [Learn More](#)

APS Networking Meeting
Sept 20, 5:15 - 6:30 pm ET
Academy of Peer Services | [Learn More](#)

SUNY Empire + Families Together
September 21, 12:00 - 1:00 PM
FTNYS | [Learn More](#)

NYAPRS Conference (In-Person)
A New Alliance - It Takes a Community!
September 21-23, 2022
NYAPRS | [Learn More](#)

Peer Learning Collaborative
September 21, 4:30 - 6:00 pm ET
3rd Wednesday of each month
Recovery Coach University | [Learn More](#)

The Golden Thread of Documentation
Sep 22, 10:00 AM - 11:30 AM
The Coalition for Behavioral Health | [Learn More](#)

Learning Collaborative: Tools and Tactics for Getting a Restful Sleep

September 22, 10:30 - 12:00 pm ET

Rutgers | [Learn More](#)

Peer Learning Collaborative (Lunch Hour Annex)

September 22, 11:00 - 12:00 pm ET

4th Thursday of each month

Recovery Coach University | [Learn More](#)

Behavioral Health Parity for Service Providers

September 22 | 12:00-1:30 pm ET

NYC DOHMH | [Learn More](#)

Family Supported Recovery Workshop

September 23, 9 - 4 pm ET

Recovery Coach University | [Learn More](#)

Rooted in Resilience: Celebrating 30 Years of Innovation & Impact

A Virtual, Livestream Community Celebration

September 23, 3-5 pm ET

CCSI | [Learn More](#)

Spirituality for Recovery Coaches

September 23-24, 9 - 4 pm ET

Recovery Coach University | [Learn More](#)

Hope Creations Art & Talent Show

September 23, 10-3 pm ET

CirCare | [Learn More](#)

Funny In My Head! All We Can Do Is Laugh

September 23, 7-8:30 pm ET

NYSPI Pardes Auditorium

1051 Riverside Drive, New York, NY

OnTrackNY | [Learn More](#)

HALI (APS) Learning Collaborative

Sept 26: 3-4 pm ET

(Mondays while APS is in session)

Hands Across Long Island | [Learn More](#)

SAMHSA Technology Transfer Center - Listening Forums

Sept 26-28: 3-4 pm ET

(Several times available all three days)

SAMHSA | [Learn More](#)

Trauma-Informed Care
September 27, 9 - 4 pm
Recovery Coach University | [Learn More](#)

Understanding Health Misinformation for Peer Specialists
September 27, 2-3 pm
Doors to Wellbeing | [Learn More](#)

APS Networking Meeting
Sept 27, 5:15 - 6:30 pm ET
Academy of Peer Services | [Learn More](#)

NYC PWC Healing Circle
September 28, 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm ET
NYC Peer Workforce Coalition | [Learn More](#)

MAT Training
September 29, 9:00 am - 1:00 pm ET
Recovery Coach University | [Learn More](#)

Co-Creating Dynamic Documentation with Individuals You Support
Sep 29, 10:00 AM - 11:30 AM
The Coalition for Behavioral Health | [Learn More](#)



Future Events

The following events have been submitted for October and beyond. As with all events in our community calendar, they are provided as a service to the peer community. To find out whether an event is eligible for continuing education for a specific certification or credential, contact the event organizer.

HALI (APS) Learning Collaborative
October 3: 3-4 pm ET
(Mondays while APS is in session)
Hands Across Long Island | [Learn More](#)

APS Networking Meeting
October 4, 5:15 - 6:30 pm ET
Academy of Peer Services | [Learn More](#)

Motivational Interviewing (2 Days)
October 5 and 12: 9 - 3 pm ET
Recovery Coach University | [Learn More](#)

Center for Community Alternatives

October 6: In-person fundraiser
Center for Community Alternatives (CCA) | [Learn More](#)

In My Mind Conference

LGBTQ+ Older Adults of Color Mental Health
Tenacity and Agelessness in Healing
October 7, 2022
In My Mind | [Learn More](#)

A Coach Approach: Coaching Skills for Recovery Coaches

October 7, 9:00 - 4:00 pm ET
Recovery Coach University | [Learn More](#)

HALI (APS) Learning Collaborative

October 10: 3-4 pm ET
(Mondays while APS is in session)
Hands Across Long Island | [Learn More](#)

APS Networking Meeting

October 11, 5:15 - 6:30 pm ET
Academy of Peer Services | [Learn More](#)

Training: Creating a Personal Wellness Self-Care Plan

October 13, 11:00 - 12:00 pm ET
Rutgers | [Learn More](#)

HALI (APS) Learning Collaborative

October 17: 3-4 pm ET
(Mondays while APS is in session)
Hands Across Long Island | [Learn More](#)

APS Networking Meeting

October 18, 5:15 - 6:30 pm ET
Academy of Peer Services | [Learn More](#)

Peer Learning Collaborative

October 19, 4:30 - 6:00 pm ET
3rd Wednesday of each month
Recovery Coach University | [Learn More](#)

Harm Reduction Pathway

October 20-21, 9:00 - 4:00 pm ET
Recovery Coach University | [Learn More](#)

HALI (APS) Learning Collaborative
October 24: 3-4 pm ET
(Mondays while APS is in session)
Hands Across Long Island | [Learn More](#)

APS Networking Meeting
October 25, 5:15 - 6:30 pm ET
Academy of Peer Services | [Learn More](#)

MassPRC First Annual Conference
Lessons Learned, the Power of Connection
October 26-27, 2022
Marlborough, MA | [Learn More](#)

National Association for Rights Protection and Advocacy (NARPA)
2022 Annual Rights Conference
October 26-29, 2022
Newark, New Jersey
NARPA | [Learn More](#)

Learning Collaborative: Implementing Organizational Self-Care Programs
October 27, 10:30 - 12:00 pm ET
Rutgers | [Learn More](#)

Peer Learning Collaborative (Lunch Hour Annex)
October 27, 11:00 - 12:00 pm ET
4th Thursday of each month
Recovery Coach University | [Learn More](#)

HALI (APS) Learning Collaborative
October 31: 3-4 pm ET
(Mondays while APS is in session)
Hands Across Long Island | [Learn More](#)

APS Networking Meeting
November 1, 5:15 - 6:30 pm ET
Academy of Peer Services | [Learn More](#)

National Association for Rural Mental Health Conference
November 2-4, 2022
[Learn More](#)

The International Conference on Trauma and Mental Health
November 3-4, 2022
[Learn More](#)

International Hearing Voices Congress

November 3-5, 2022

Porto Alegre, Brazil, with an Online Option

[Learn More](#)

Training: Workplace Resources for Wellness

November 3, 11:00 - 12:00 pm ET

Rutgers | [Learn More](#)

29th Annual Bi-County Empowerment Conference

Unity for Change

November 4, 9 am - 3 pm ET

BiCounty Conference Committee | [Learn More](#)

ISPS-US (International Society for Psychological and Social Approaches to Psychosis—U.S. Chapter)

November 4-6, 2022

Sacramento, CA

[Learn More](#)

Peer Supervision Training in a ROSC

November 7 & 8, 9:00 am - 4:00 pm ET

Recovery Coach University | [Learn More](#)

HALI (APS) Learning Collaborative

November 7: 3-4 pm ET

(Mondays while APS is in session)

Hands Across Long Island | [Learn More](#)

APS Networking Meeting

November 8, 5:15 - 6:30 pm ET

Academy of Peer Services | [Learn More](#)

HALI (APS) Learning Collaborative

November 14: 3-4 pm ET

(Mondays while APS is in session)

Hands Across Long Island | [Learn More](#)

APS Networking Meeting

November 15, 5:15 - 6:30 pm ET

Academy of Peer Services | [Learn More](#)

Peer Learning Collaborative

November 16, 4:30 - 6:00 pm ET

3rd Wednesday of each month

Recovery Coach University | [Learn More](#)

Learning Collaborative: Building a Workplace Wellness Culture

November 17, 10:30 - 12:00 pm ET

Rutgers | [Learn More](#)

OMH Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) Meeting

November 21, 2022 8:30 – 12:30 pm

Statewide Meeting

OMH Office of Consumer Affairs

[Learn More](#)

Motivational Interviewing (2 Days)

November 21-22: 9 - 3 pm ET

Recovery Coach University | [Learn More](#)

APS Networking Meeting

November 22, 5:15 - 6:30 pm ET

Academy of Peer Services | [Learn More](#)

APS Networking Meeting

November 29, 5:15 - 6:30 pm ET

Academy of Peer Services | [Learn More](#)

SUNY Empire + Families Together

December 1, 12:00 - 1:00 PM

FTNYS | [Learn More](#)

7th Annual Substance Use and Mental Health Peer Conference

Peer Professionals: The Ongoing Evolution

December 2, 2022

NYC DOHMH | [Learn More](#)

APS Networking Meeting

December 6, 5:15 - 6:30 pm ET

Academy of Peer Services | [Learn More](#)

Training: Winter Wellness Planning

December 8, 11:00 - 12:00 pm ET

Rutgers | [Learn More](#)

APS Networking Meeting

December 13, 5:15 - 6:30 pm ET

Academy of Peer Services | [Learn More](#)

APS Networking Meeting

December 20, 5:15 - 6:30 pm ET

Academy of Peer Services | [Learn More](#)

Peer Learning Collaborative
December 21, 4:30 - 6:00 pm ET
3rd Wednesday of each month
Recovery Coach University | [Learn More](#)

Peer Learning Collaborative (Lunch Hour Annex)
December 22, 11:00 - 12:00 pm ET
4th Thursday of each month
Recovery Coach University | [Learn More](#)

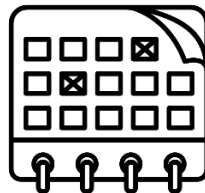
APS Networking Meeting
December 29, 5:15 - 6:30 pm ET
Academy of Peer Services | [Learn More](#)

----- 2023 -----

Learning Collaborative: 2023 Wellness Planning
January 19, 10:30 - 12:00 pm ET
Rutgers | [Learn More](#)

Training: The WTLC Finale!
January 26, 11:00 - 12:00 pm ET
Rutgers | [Learn More](#)

The Virtual Learning Community online [Community Calendar](#) is updated regularly.



Are we Missing Anything?

If you have announcements or corrections for the online Calendar, send them at any time to academy.virtual.community@gmail.com.



Ongoing Support Groups

New Group Forming

Sharing Memories of Psychosis: A Peer-to-Peer Reflection Group
(Dates/Times to be determined) | [Learn More](#)

Creative Wellness Opportunities

Daily Activities ([August](#))
Rochester MHA | [Learn More](#)

HALI (APS) Learning Collaborative

Mondays, 3-4 pm ET
(While APS is in session)
Hands Across Long Island | [Learn More](#)

Peer Workers United

First and third Monday, 6:00 - 7:30 pm ET
City Voices | [Learn More](#)

WiseCrackers (Group for Over 50)

Mondays, 7 - 8:30 pm ET
WiseCrackers | [Learn More](#)

Peer Workforce Workgroup (Rockland)

Tuesdays 12 - 1 pm Eastern
MHA of Rockland County | [Learn More](#)

Professional Peer Support Group (Baltic Street)

Every other Tuesday 3:30 -4:30 Eastern
Starting August 2
Baltic Street | [Learn More](#)

APS Networking Group

Tuesdays from 5:15 – 6:30 pm Eastern
Academy of Peer Services | [Learn More](#)

Shedding Skins

Tuesdays at 7 pm
City Voices / Chaplain Yael | [Learn More](#)

Hearing Voices and Alternate Realities

Wednesdays at 12-1 pm
City Voices | [Learn More](#)

Peer Support for Peer Supporters

1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month at 9:30 am
Life Connections Peer Recovery Services | [Learn More](#)

Peer Networking Meeting

1st Wednesday of each month at 4:00 - 5:00 pm
AMHW | [Learn More](#)

Support for Peer Workers

2nd Wednesday of each month at 4:00 - 5:00 pm
AMHW | [Learn More](#)

Healing Connections Support Group

3rd Wednesday of each month at 4:00 - 5:00 pm
AMHW | [Learn More](#)

Peer Workforce Ongoing Education

4th Wednesday of each month at 4:00 - 5:00 pm
AMHW | [Learn More](#)

Peer Workforce Coalition (PWC) Support Circle

Last Wednesday of every month at 6-8 pm
NYC PWC | [Join Meeting](#)

Long Island Peer Specialist Community of Practice

4th Thursday at 3:00 pm
[Mission, Vision, Values](#)
Long Island COP | [Learn More](#)

Long Island Peer Supervision Learning Collaborative

Last Wednesday of each month at 2-3 pm
Hands Across Long Island (HALI) | [Learn More](#)

Spiritual Talk and Meditation (on Zoom)

Saturdays at 11:30 am
City Voices | [Learn More](#)

Get Involved



CAPE-Youth

[The Center for Advancing Policy on Employment for Youth](#) (CAPE-Youth), in consultation with [the White House Office of Public Engagement](#), invites you to our roundtable discussion on Improving Mental Health Service Delivery for Youth and Young Adults with Marginalized Racial Identities. Our goal is to better understand the mental health challenges faced by youth and young adults, including particular challenges faced by youth and young adults with disabilities (Y&YADs) who belong to marginalized racial groups. This virtual discussion will examine opportunities for states to improve mental health service delivery, including supporting better educational and employment outcomes.

The discussion will take place over a [virtual session](#) on Tuesday, September 27 from 1-3 PM ET, and will be divided into two sessions. The first hour (1-2 PM) will include guest speakers. The second hour (2-3 PM) will involve breakout room discussions between policymakers, practitioners and individuals with lived experience. Breakout room discussions will be moderated by staff from CAPE-Youth and include guided questions. See the [draft agenda](#) for more details. A more detailed agenda will be out closer to the event date. Register [here](#). I hope to virtually see you there. Sincerely, Abeer Sikder

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Friendship Project - Start Your Own Guide (Dan Frey, City Voices)

“The Friendship Squad is a mutual aid project for social support,” writes Dan Frey, director of [City Voices](#). “Basically, my purpose was to connect people who were secure in their recovery from mental health and/or addiction challenges and who have a solid support system, with people who may be struggling, lacking support, lonely and/or isolated,” he said. If you want to start your own Friendship Project, “I will help you every step of the way free of charge.” For more information, [click here](#).

International Initiative for Mental Health Leadership (IIMHL2022).

The [International Initiative for Mental Health Leadership](#) (IIMHL) brings together and connects mental health leaders to help spread innovation and best practice to improve mental health and addiction services around the globe. [The College for Behavioral Health Leadership](#) (CBHL) serves as the US Liaison to IIMHL, functioning as a connector between behavioral health leaders across the US and international leaders through IIMHL. In October 2022, IIMHL is hosting the [2022 Leadership Exchange - Valuing Inclusion, Resilience, and Growth](#) - where leaders from across the globe will come together in both virtual (October 3-20) and in person (October 26-27, Washington DC for North America) environments to collaborate, learn emerging innovations, and further knowledge exchange. | [Learn More](#)

Invitation to Contribute to a Celebration of Steve Harrington

We are holding a celebration of the life of Steve Harrington at the upcoming N.A.P.S. Annual Conference. Steve was the founder of the National Association of Peer Specialists and touched many lives in his quest for growing the peer support workforce. He died in November 2021. Rita Cronise is collecting items to include in a slideshow of Steve's life that will be shared at the conference. If you knew Steve and have a brief memory or photo to share, please contact Rita at rita.cronise@rutgers.edu

NYC Justice Peer Initiative – Congratulations!

Congratulations to the NYC Justice Peer Initiative and CASES as they make it to the final round for the SAMHSA Recovery Innovation Challenge. View the finalists [here](#).

Research Opportunities



Another way to get involved in the peer workforce is to participate in research related to mental health topics or to assist groups by completing surveys. In this section, we also include groups that are conducting surveys to better understand the peer support workforce.

Certified Peer Specialist Career Outcomes Study (Courtesy Live and Learn)

With funding from the National Institute on Disability, Independent Living, and Rehabilitation Research, Live & Learn, Inc., in partnership with the University of Illinois at Chicago [Center on Mental Health Services Research & Policy](#) and the Temple University [Collaborative on Community Inclusion of Individuals with Psychiatric Disabilities](#), is conducting a three-year, national study of employment outcomes of individuals who have obtained a certified peer specialist (CPS) credential. The study is designed to improve the understanding of how CPS certification contributes to new graduates' outcomes and opportunities and improve the careers of workers with psychiatric disabilities. It uses an observational prospective cohort study design to follow a sample of 680 adults who recently received a CPS. | [Learn More](#)

BU Seeks Peer Support Specialists for a Research Study (Courtesy The Key Update)

The Center for Psychiatric Rehabilitation at Boston University is developing and testing the effectiveness of a coaching service called Coaching and Advancement for Peer Providers (CAPP) "to increase organizational commitment and job satisfaction and decrease turnover among mental health peer providers." BU CPR writes: "We need Peer Support Specialists (PSS) to participate in our study. Who can participate? People who are in a paid job as a Peer Support Specialist providing support to other people with mental health challenges, who are employed at least 10 hours per week, who have worked for the past six months in a mental health program, and who are experiencing stress because of challenges in the workplace. The study involves 16 one-hour sessions of coaching over a four-month period designed

to help you with your job, meeting online (through Zoom, for example) with your coach, and filling out surveys one time before coaching starts and three additional times. You will have a 50/50 chance of getting a coach or having a one-time meeting to give you information about challenges at work. Benefits? You may learn strategies to help make work less stressful.” For questions, contact Principal Investigator E. Sally Rogers, Sc.D., at erogers@bu.edu or 617-353-3549. For more information, [click here](#).

REACH (Resilience, Education, Action, Community, Health) (Courtesy Live and Learn)

The Copeland Center for Wellness and Recovery is dedicated to innovations in recovery peer support and community inclusion. We have developed a new online peer group workshop called REACH (Resilience, Education, Action, Community, Health) with the goal of bringing activity into, or back into, your life. The Copeland Center is partnering with Temple University on a research study to examine the impact of REACH. [Learn More](#)

Participants Needed for a Research Study: The Effect of Social Influence on Physical Activity in Adults with Psychiatric Disabilities

Description of Project: The purpose of this study is to understand how relationships with friends, family, and healthcare providers as well as the community affect how people diagnosed with mental health conditions perform physical activity. We are looking for 200 participants to take part in the research. To Be Eligible: 1) participant must be 18 years of age or older, 2) have a mental health diagnosis of major depressive disorder, bipolar disorder, schizophrenia, schizoaffective disorder, or generalized anxiety disorder and, 3) be fluent in English (able to read, write, and speak). What you will do: You may complete a survey about your physical activity, how your relationships and community influence your physical activity, and provide information about your physical and mental health. The survey is expected to take between 20 and 30 minutes to complete. If you have questions or would like assistance with completing the surveys, please contact the principal investigator of the study, Sean Karyczak, at karyczse@rutgers.edu. or 908 (889) 2501. Participants will be compensated a \$10 gift card for their participation in the study. IRB Approved ([View QR code and invitation](#)). To Participate: You may complete the survey by clicking the link below or scanning the QR code in the above invitation. https://rutgers.ca1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_77Fnz6gEVSIQcE6

Help Us Map the Landscape of Lived Experience and Family Involvement in 988 Policy and Related Crisis Response System Planning (Courtesy The Key Update) - As 988 implementation rolls out alongside additional efforts to strengthen crisis response systems throughout the US, it's important to gauge the extent to which direct stakeholders (i.e. individuals who use or have used mental health crisis services and their families) have been involved in related policy, implementation and evaluation at the local, regional, state or federal level. To map out involvement nationally, Mental Health America (lead: Kelly Davis), Nev Jones (University of Pittsburgh) and Keris Myrick (National Association of Peer Supporters) have developed a survey aimed at documenting the extent of stakeholder involvement, the forms this involvement has taken, and, where available, what concerns stakeholders have raised. | [Learn More](#)

TU Collaborative Seeks Participants for Its Parenting Through Leisure Project (Courtesy The Key Update) – “See Also the TU Collaborative's Parenting Resources, Including Information on Custody Issues

The Temple University Collaborative on Community Inclusion is seeking parents with lived experience of a mental health condition to participate in a paid research study. The TU Collaborative writes: "Our program, Parenting Through Leisure, focuses on helping parents with a serious mental illness participate in leisure activities with their child. We are looking for individuals who are 18 and older; are an adult parent with a diagnosis of schizophrenia-spectrum disorder, bipolar disorder, or depression; have a child who is 7 to 15 years old and is interested in participating in family leisure with you; have legal visitation rights, joint custody or full custody of the child, with at least weekly contact; and have a desire to engage in more leisure activities with their child." For details about the study and the remuneration as well as other benefits to eligible participants, and a link to sign up, [click here](#).

Survey Seeks Respondents Who Are in Administrative/Leadership Positions in the Mental Health Field (Courtesy The Key Update and Oryx Cohen) – If you are in an administrative/leadership position in the mental health arena, “the Group for the Advancement of Psychiatry (GAP) Committee on Psychiatric Administration and Leadership invites you to participate in the International Survey on Administrative Psychiatry. The survey has two purposes: 1. To identify the concerns and needs of mental health professionals/psychiatrists in administrative and leadership positions. 2. To determine training needs in administrative psychiatry. We ask you to complete this brief, [15- to 20-minute] questionnaire to help us in developing recommendations for action. We also want to let you know that, if you fill out this questionnaire, you permit the committee to use your anonymous data for scientific work.” Peer providers are included. For the survey, [click here](#).

“Experiences with Hospitalization” Survey Seeks Participants (Courtesy The Key Update and Leah Harris) –“The purpose of this survey is to help us understand people’s lived experience with voluntary and involuntary treatment because of suicidal thoughts. It was created by people with lived experience...We are planning to use this information to facilitate discussions with suicidologists and the suicide prevention community about the impact of the use of these interventions, particularly within marginalized populations. We feel the voice of people with lived experience with these interventions has not had adequate opportunity to be heard, and hope that by completing this survey anonymously, people who have been most impacted can find a safe way to share their experiences. Please note that this is not a research project.” For more information and/or to participate, [click here](#).

Researchers: Do you Need Participants for a Study or Survey?



If you are a researcher, work for a research institute, or are conducting a survey of the peer support workforce (and related populations) and are seeking participants send a description of your study to academy.virtual.community@gmail.com.

Resources



Behavioral Health Case Managers - Online Course

Case managers in behavioral health agencies form the backbone of efforts to improve the medical outcomes of people living with serious mental illness. This course is designed to prepare case managers for this work. This free online course reviews the reality of increased premature mortality in people living with serious mental illness, explores the medical and social causes of this increased mortality as well as approaches to reducing it and introduces some practical tools and approaches to improving health in the populations case managers serve. The free course was developed by the [AIMS Center](#) at the University of Washington with funding provided by [HealthierHere](#).

BIPOC Highlight - The Mental Health Coalition

This past July and August, we've put a spotlight on BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, People of Color) mental health, back-to-school mental health, and much more. Keep scrolling to check out some of our free mental health resources, which are funded by generous people like you. | [Learn More](#)

Community-Delivered Services: Best practices and innovations

Each part of this series will focus on a specific topic related to delivering services in the community, so you can explore the information that is relevant to your work. The series will be released in batches in the coming weeks, with a Community-Delivered Services Planning Workbook wrapping up the series as the final release. This series is directed toward senior leadership, program directors, supervisors, front line staff, and other professionals interested in best practices in community-delivered services. CTAC | [Learn More](#)

Criminal Justice - Seven Years of Stepping Up (Recommended by The Key Update)

"Communities across the country are reducing over-incarceration of people with mental illnesses as part of the national Stepping Up initiative...The virtual event will highlight counties' achievements over the past seven years, explore emerging trends in the field, and chart a path forward for the movement. It is free and open to the public. The latest CSG JC newsletter also includes "How to Use an Integrated Approach to Address the Mental Health Needs of Youth in the Justice System" and a lot of other information. For the newsletter, [click here](#). For another CSG JC newsletter (State of Justice, August 19, 2022), [click here](#).

East Side Institute - What's Happening

Performance Activism, classes, events, and resources | [Learn More](#)

Mental Health Outreach Team and Peer Training Expansion Project (MHOT-PTE)

The MHOT-PTE program is for individuals aged 18 and older who have experienced psychotic symptoms for at least one week in the prior two years. All participants will receive comprehensive peer support and care for up to 2-years, using evidence-based practices delivered by certified and licensed staff members. Services offered to include street outreach, benefits access/restoration, continued service

referrals, and other supports as needed. Uninsured participants will receive project services on a sliding scale. SyrPeer, Inc., located in Syracuse, New York, conducts the project. Research suggests that the sooner an individual has support for mental health and substance use challenges, the more likely the person will experience significant recovery. The Mental Health Outreach and Peer Training Expansion aims to promote engagement and participation in personalized treatment, foster recovery, and reduce or prevent disability. To learn more or refer a potential participant, don't hesitate to contact James Clarke, the program director, at (315) 552-1337 or james.clarke@syrpeer.org or visit our website at <http://syrpeer.org>. ([SyrPeer flyer](#)). Individuals and their families are also encouraged to call for information. | [Learn More](#)

NAMI Helpline launches Text Line

The National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) today launched a nationwide SMS/text message support option for the [NAMI HelpLine](#), adding a communications medium that is overwhelmingly preferred by young people — a population experiencing an unprecedented [mental health crisis](#). Help-seekers can now text “HELPLINE” to 62640 between 10 a.m.–10 p.m. ET, Monday–Friday, to connect with the NAMI HelpLine. The free, peer-support service provides information, resource referrals and support to people living with a mental health condition, their family members and caregivers, mental health providers and the public. | [Learn More](#)

NAMI - An Introduction to NAMI for New Leaders

We encourage you to enroll in the “An Introduction to NAMI for New Leaders” course! This is a perfect opportunity for new staff, leaders and volunteers as well as a refresher to all of the long-term leaders to gain a better understanding of NAMI — who we are, what we do and how we are structured. The course contains helpful information and resources for leaders in the Alliance. It also provides questions to guide discussions on organizational capacity. | [Learn More](#)

National Center on Law & Elder Rights (NCLER) Digest of Resources | [Learn More](#)

In case you missed it: a digest of July’s trainings and resources from the National Center on Law & Elder Rights, as well as offerings from our ACL resource center and federal agency partners.

More NCLER - Long COVID Resources

Most individuals with COVID-19 get better within weeks, but some continue to experience symptoms that can persist for a long time after their initial recovery or may even develop new symptoms. This condition is commonly referred to as “long COVID” and can impact anyone, even those who only had mild symptoms. According to the CDC, health inequities may put some populations at greater risk for developing post-COVID conditions. | [Learn More](#)

NYS Office of Mental Health Launches Partnership to Help Black New Yorkers Heal from Buffalo Tragedy and Increased Rates of Trauma

The NYS Office of Mental Health is partnering with the Association of Black Psychologists (ABPsi), Inc. to provide specialized “healing circle” support groups for individuals and families traumatized by the racially motivated mass shooting in Buffalo earlier this year and increased incidents of hate crimes in general. The virtual support groups, known as “Sawubona” provide assistance and support to individuals and families dealing with elevated levels of grief, anxiety and trauma. | [Learn More](#)

Pat Deegan, 5 Part Video Series - I Am A Person (Recommended by NYAPRS)

In this [5-part series](#), Pat Deegan shares important lessons she learned on her journey of recovery after being diagnosed with schizophrenia as a teenager. She illustrates how to use these lessons in everyday work with young people diagnosed with early psychosis and their families. In this first of five stories, Pat focuses on the fact that illnesses don't recover, people do. | [Learn More](#)

Peer Involvement and Leadership in Early Intervention in Psychosis Services: From Planning to Peer Support and Evaluation by Nev Jones (Recommended by The Key Update)

This guide aims “to provide a range of different stakeholders with information and best practices for peer support and leadership in early intervention for psychosis (EIP) services...Unlike many other U.S. peer support manuals, the aim of this guide is to provide coverage of a broad range of domains in which peers might assume leadership or advisory roles. These include program development and planning, direct service delivery (including peer support), public outreach and engagement, clinician education, and quality improvement and evaluation.” | [Learn More](#)

Robyn Priest, Live Your Truth

In addition to full training for peer support workers, they are offering fall workshops in supporting someone who is experiencing Parallel Realities/Hearing Voices, supporting family members and friends, nutrition, and more. | [Learn More](#)

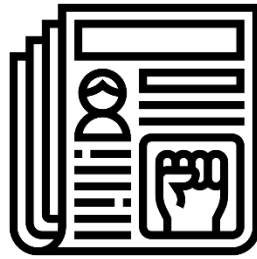
Rooted in Resilience Video Series

We have continued to share stories of innovation and impact in our 30th Anniversary Rooted in Resilience Video Series featuring CCSI customers, partners, board members, and staff. Videos include our significant moments and impact highlights throughout our 30-year history and share the vision for where CCSI is heading. Tune in on our website to watch! | [Learn More](#)

Welcoming Space to Manage Crisis - Wellness Respite Program

The need for behavioral health care prevention, treatment, and recovery supports, including crisis alternatives, has grown and is now receiving federal support through enhanced funding. When a person experiences severe emotional distress, crisis alternatives are a viable option instead of inpatient hospitalization to address the distress and restore balance. Peer respite programs are voluntary, short-term, crisis alternatives for people experiencing mental distress. Models have evolved in response to funding and regulatory requirements, yet research is limited. The current article describes a unique peer-led program, Wellness Respite, in operation for 7 years, including data from recent satisfaction surveys and the role of nurses in the program. Implications of a home-like, short-term crisis alternative and the role of the nurse are emphasized. ([Journal of Psychosocial Nursing and Mental Health Services, May, 09, 2022.](#))

Other Newsletters



This section contains links to other newsletters with content of interest to the peer support workforce.

The Key Update - The National Mental Health Consumers' Self-Help Clearinghouse Newsletter -
Read it here! <https://www.mhselfhelp.org/the-key-update-latest>

Here's a preview of what you'll find in the September 2022 issue:

1. New Report Reveals Big Pharma's Threats to Medical Whistleblowers
2. "Psychiatric Advance Directives—What They Can Do for You"
3. Save the Date! NCMHR to Host Alternatives 2022, a Virtual Conference, on Nov. 2, 3, and 4
4. Stakeholders with Lived Experience Work to Prevent Co-optation and Tokenism in Research
5. Two Recent Articles Explain: People with Lived Experience Can Play a Vital Role in Research
6. Researchers Develop New Scale to Measure Patients' Psychological Safety
7. MHA Will Present Three Youth-Focused Webinars in September
8. "'The Best Tool We Have' for Self-Harming and Suicidal Teens" and "This Teen Was Prescribed 10 Psychiatric Drugs. She's Not Alone."
9. MindFreedom International's Next Judi's Room to Be Held on September 7
10. Guide Offers Best Practices for Peer Support and Leadership in EIP Services
11. Seven Years of Stepping Up Will Highlight Efforts to Reduce Criminal Legal System Involvement of Individuals with Mental Health Conditions
12. Suicide Hotlines: What the Research Says; "New 988 Hotline Doesn't Currently Use Geolocation Services," AP Reports; NBC News: "New 988 hotline draws criticism that it could lead to a police response, but advocates say it's misguided"; NPR: "Social Media Posts Warn People Not to Call 988. Here's What You Need to Know"; and SAMHSA'S "988 Frequently Asked Questions"
13. Free Webinar: "988: What's the Scoop?"
14. "Mental Health Activists Hold Diverse and Varied Perspectives on Psychiatry"
15. September 14 Is World Hearing Voices Day; (Hybrid) World Hearing Voices Congress 2022 to Be Held in Brazil; Study Highlights Positive Outcomes of Voice-Hearing Group Members in Brazil
16. Mental Health Book Fair Will Celebrate Students Who Combat Prejudice and Discrimination
17. NYAPRS Opens Registration for Its 2022 Annual Conference
18. NARPA Rights Conference Offers Scholarships for Persons with Lived Experience
19. Doors to Wellbeing Will Host Its Next Free Webinar on September 27
20. Protest Planned at AOT Conference in San Antonio, October 13-14
21. "Start Your Own Friendship Project with This Easy-to-Follow Guide"
22. Invitation to Contribute to a Celebration of Steve Harrington

23. The Movement Mourns Sally Zinman, Fierce Warrior for Social Justice, Who Died on August 25, 2022
24. The September 2022 Digest of Articles Offering Healthy Lifestyle Advice
25. The September 2022 Digest of Articles about the [Criminal Legal System](#), in Which Many Individuals with Mental Health Conditions Are Incarcerated (and the Key Update continues after this Digest)

The Key Update - Read it here! <https://www.mhselfhelp.org/the-key-update-latest>

Coordinated Care Service, Inc (CCSI) Newsletter - 30 Year Celebration; Building Resilient Communities; Rooted in Resilience Videos; Don Kamin receives Commissioner’s Community Care Award; SHARP Project for Adults 55 years of age and older in Onondaga County; Promise Zone; Trauma-Informed Care as First Line of Treatment for MH Issues; Impact of Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs); The Power of a Team; Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion; Kesha Carter Nominated for Colors of Success DEI Award; Integrating Trauma-Responsive Care and Health Equity to support wellness of Individuals of Color; Recruiting, Onboarding, and Retention Oh My! During the Great Resignation; Openings | [Learn More](#)

Families Together in NYS Newsletter

‘The Voice’ is Families Together in New York State’s monthly newsletter with information that is important to families and youth across the State. For further information, visit www.ftnys.org.
– Upcoming Events | [Learn More](#)

Mental Health Technology Transfer Center (MHTTC) Northeast and Caribbean Newsletter - 988; Religion, Spirituality, and Mental Health; Functional Contextual Thinking; Illness Management and Recovery (IMR) - An Overview; Toward Wellness and Recovery; Provider Wellness; Cultural Inclusiveness and Equity (WISE); Racial Equity Tools; and Journey to Medication Support with Pat Deegan | [Learn More](#)

Mental Health Technology Transfer Center (MHTTC) South Southwest Newsletter - National Recovery Month, Suicide Prevention Month | [Learn More](#)

NAMI-NYS Newsletter (August) - 988; Board Member Openings; Off the Mask; Masquerade Party; Signature Programs; Introduction to NAMI Course; NAMI Back to School Resources; Blogs; Research Opportunities; MH Resources | [Learn More](#)

NAMI-NYS Newsletter (Sept) - NAMI-NYS Educational Conference (Nov 11-12) in Albany, Suicide Prevention Month, Join the Board, Off the Mask, Model Ambassadors, Signature Programs, Affiliate News, Save the Dates, Back to School, Research Opportunities, 988 Crisis Line || [Learn More](#)

National Empowerment Center (NEC) Newsletter - Passing the Torch | [Learn More](#)

Families Together in NYS, The Voice of Families and Youth - August Newsletter | [Learn More](#)

Job Openings



Please note:

Job Openings and Open Jobs Reports are provided as a public service for our learners, our alumni, and the larger community of peer support workers, supervisors, and colleagues of those who provide peer support services.

For more information about a specific job, please contact the employer directly.

Current Job Openings

The jobs listed in the newsletter are current as of September 1, 2022. **Openings are listed in order of submission. Most recent jobs are listed at the top.**

New York City

[SENIOR MENTAL HEALTH WORKER](#)

In the Job ID search bar, enter job ID number # **548287**

NYC Dept. of Health and Mental Hygiene

Buffalo

Multiple openings at the Buffalo United Resiliency Center (BURC) – serving those impacted by the May 14th mass tragedy:

[Program Manager](#)

[Community Resource Director](#)

[Case Manager](#)

Resource Council of WNY, Inc.

Newburgh

Multiple openings:

[Peer Recovery Specialist \(SUD\) Ulster County](#)

[Peer Recovery Specialist \(SUD\) Dutchess County](#)

[Team Leader \(SUD\) Dutchess County](#)

[Certified Recovery Peer Advocate \(Lexington Center for Recovery/Independent Living, Inc.\)](#)

[RCOC Assistant Program Manager](#)

Independent Living, Inc. and Independent Home Care, Inc.

Central Islip (**Long Island**)

[CORE Peer \(per diem\)](#)

Hands Across Long Island

Brooklyn

[Peer Specialist](#)

Ft. Greene Park Conservancy and S:US

Albany

[Employment Specialist](#)

[Administrative Coordinator](#)

NYAPRS

New York City

[Peer Specialist](#) (CRPA)

Metropolitan Center for Mental Health

Brooklyn

[Supported Education Counselor](#)

Baltic Street AEH

Brooklyn (Coney Island)

[Peer Specialist](#)

OMH/South Beach Psychiatric Center

New York City

[Peer Bridger \(B-H.O.P.E.\)](#)

Baltic Street, AEH

Brooklyn

[Peer Counselors / Navigators](#)

[Pilot Project \(description\)](#)

NYU Langone Health

New York City

[Volunteer Positions](#)

City Voices

988 Lifeline Jobs

The Lifeline Suicide & Crisis Network is looking to bring on new volunteers and paid employees to answer calls, chats, and texts from people in crisis. All employees and volunteers receive training, so if you are a caring person who wants to help those in crisis, [apply today.](#)

Find YOUR opportunity: <https://www.samhsa.gov/find-help/988/jobs>

Read more about 988 at <https://www.samhsa.gov/find-help/988>

SAMHSA

Still looking? We receive new job openings from employers regularly. For the latest jobs that have been submitted to the Academy of Peer Services, visit the [Job Seekers page](#) on our website. This lists positions submitted directly to us by employers looking for qualified candidates.

(For Youth and Family Peer Advocate postings, check the listings on [Families Together in NYS](#).)

Interested in a Career with New York State?

They are always hiring. | Search [StateJobsNY](#)

Also, check this listing of upcoming [Civil Service Exams](#)

Visit our Job Search Strategies Page

There are many more openings available than those listed here. You can also check through temporary staffing companies and employment agencies like Indeed, Job Zone, Career Builder, and the Dept. of Labor (DOL). To search for a specific job title, location, or employer, visit our [Job Search Strategies page](#).

Funding Opportunities



Deadline to apply, October 13, 2022

Project AWARE (Advancing Wellness and Resiliency in Education)

The purpose of Project AWARE is to develop a sustainable infrastructure for school-based mental health programs and services. Grant recipients are expected to build collaborative partnerships with the State Education Agency (SEA), Local Education Agency (LEA), Tribal Education Agency (TEA), the State Mental Health Agency (SMHA), community-based providers of behavioral health care services, school personnel, community organizations, families, and school-aged youth. Grant recipients will leverage their partnerships to implement mental health related promotion, awareness, prevention, intervention, and resilience activities to ensure that students have access and are connected to appropriate and effective behavioral health services. SAMHSA expects that this program will promote the healthy social and emotional development of school-aged youth and prevent youth violence in school settings. SAMHSA plans to issue 20 awards of up to \$1,800,000 per year for up to 4 years. | [Learn More](#)

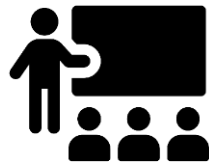
Deadline to apply, October 17, 2022

Resiliency in Communities After Stress and Trauma (ReCAST)

The purpose of this program is to promote resilience, trauma-informed approaches, and equity in communities that have recently faced civil unrest, community violence, and/or collective trauma within the past 24 months; and assist high-risk youth and families through the implementation of evidence-based violence prevention, and community youth engagement programs. SAMHSA expects ReCAST to be guided by a community-based coalition of residents, non-profit organizations, and other entities (e.g., health and human service providers, schools, institutions of higher education, faith-based organizations, businesses, state and local government, law enforcement, and employment, housing, and transportation services agencies). SAMHSA plans to issue 10 awards of up to \$1,000,000 per year for up to 4 years

APS Training/Support Network

APS has established a network of training and support organizations that meet regularly to share strategies, approaches, and best practices in delivery of live peer support training. These organizations are listed on the Virtual Learning Community website and can advertise upcoming training opportunities through the Virtual Community calendar and newsletter.



[View the Training/Support Network Page](#)

Training Organizations offering Peer Support Training

Instructor-Led Peer Specialist Training Opportunities
(Organizations that offer certification preparation based on APS)



Several organizations around the state offer instructor-led peer specialist training based (at least in part) on APS courses. Many of these training programs provide an opportunity to learn in a group environment and to help you to be better prepared to take the tests in the Academy of Peer Services.

**Association for Mental Health and Wellness (AMHW)
Long Island**

Peer Workforce Readiness Basics and Peer Specialist Training
Careers in Recovery and Wellness Training Center
8-week training offered live online through Zoom

AMHW | [Learn More](#)

Howie the Harp

16 Week Sessions with 12 Week Internship
Employment Support

Community Access | [Learn More](#)

Hands Across Long Island (HALI)

APS Learning Collaborative / Term 3
Preparation for the APS Tests toward NYCPS Certification

[Learn More](#)

[HALI Internship](#)

Institute for the Development of Human Arts (IDHA)

View their latest video and year-end report

[Learn More](#)

LaGuardia Community College

Mental Health Peer Specialist Training Program
Preparation for the APS Tests toward NYCPS Certification

[Learn More](#)

MHA Rochester Peer Academy

One-month sessions (every other month)

Monday-Friday, 10:00 - 2:00 pm

Goals: Professional Development, Work Readiness and Individual Wellness

[Apply Now!](#)

MHA Westchester Peer Specialist Training

Monday, Wednesday, Friday: 2:00 - 4:00 pm

Preparation to take the NYS Peer Exams

[Program Brochure](#)

Mental Health Empowerment Project (MHEP)

Empowerment Exchange (Troy)

RISE Center (Mt. Vernon)

8-week peer specialist training

[Learn More](#)

**New York City Health + Hospitals
Peer Academy**
Free training toward NYCPS and CRPA
[Learn More](#)

Does your organization offer instructor-led or peer facilitated training to help learners prepare for the NYCPS certification? To learn more about joining the Training/Support Network, send email to academy.virtual.community@gmail.com

About the Academy of Peer Services



The Academy of Peer Services (APS) is free of charge and open to anyone who has an interest in learning about peer support services. To access APS: <https://www.academyofpeerservices.org>

Through the generous support of the New York State Office of Mental Health, APS offers over 90 online self-paced courses, 13 of which are approved for the initial application to attain a New York Certified Peer Specialist NYCPS or NYCPS-P (Provisional) certification.

All of our courses are approved by the New York Peer Specialist Certification Board (NYPSCB) for continuing education on current topics related to peer support services and supervision. To learn more about APS, including the Terms of Use, Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ), and User Guide, [click here](#).

About the Virtual Learning Community



The Virtual Learning Community is a companion to the Academy of Peer Services that is intended to help create a bridge from online learning to real world practice.

Our Virtual Learning Community website is: <https://aps-community.org>. The website News, Calendar, Job Bank, Webinar, Support, Research, Resources, and other pages are updated regularly. If you have questions or anything else to add to our website or newsletter, send email to academy.virtual.community@gmail.com.

To receive updates, join our free Virtual Learning Community mailing list. If you are not already a member of the Virtual Learning Community, sign up for our free mailing list. To sign up, [click here](#).



Networking Meetings

- The APS Virtual Networking Meeting (support by and for peer supporters) is held on zoom every Tuesday evening from 5:15 – 6:30 pm Eastern. Facilitators: Rita Cronise and Maryam Husamudeen. Guest speakers and facilitators welcome! | [Register in advance](#)

APS End User Support

If you have questions related to the Academy of Peer Services online courses, contact Maryam by email: academyofpeerservicesnyomh@gmail.com or by phone during business hours (M-F, 9 AM-5 PM)

Monthly Column: Ask Maryam



When you send an email for support, Maryam Husamudeen, the APS User Support Specialist answers your questions. As a regular feature of the newsletter, Maryam will answer some of the most frequent questions she receives from our learners.

Question: Why is it a violation of the Terms of Use to create more than one account?

Each created APS account is specially coded with an identification number and holds the certificates you earn. These accounts cannot be merged. Multiple accounts won't allow you to see your progress towards certification in one place. The policy around this practice provides everyone a fair and equal opportunity to complete courses. Trying to access content and complete tests from multiple accounts may invalidate your post-test results. You do not need multiple accounts because you can access your APS account from multiple computers (devices) using your one username and password. If you have completed post-tests using multiple accounts, you will be responsible for tracking your own certificates. APS staff cannot be responsible for inaccurate reporting of completed courses on your Dashboard if you have used more than one account. The Certification Board uses your Printed Transcript to verify the required courses you have taken. If those courses were taken on multiple accounts, they will not appear on the transcript as completed. Lastly, a Certificate of Completion or Master Certificate is generated once the 13 required courses are completed. This can only occur on one account. The certificate number is assigned to that account. APS works on an honor system, which means we expect learners to use one account. Each term provides 2 chances to successfully pass the post-test for the courses and we hold this principal to a high standard. For the letter that went to all registered users at the beginning of Term 3 about multiple accounts, [click here](#).

'Ask Maryam'. If you have a question for the next issue of the newsletter, send it to "Ask Maryam" at academy.virtual.community@gmail.com (the newsletter email address). For other questions you can reach Maryam via the APS User Support email: academyofpeerservicesnyomh@gmail.com or call during business hours (M-F: 9-5) at 917-837-1957.